

Grand Marina – Public Art Application

Title – “Portal”
“Nautilus”

Description:

“Portal” – 9’ 6” diameter ship’s porthole with embossed sheet metal waves.

“Nautilus” – 6’ tall segment of nautilus shell with embossed copper sheet metal waves (overall structure will be approx. 7’)

Scope / Dimensions / Media

“Portal” – 9’ 6” diameter ship’s porthole (depth = approx 2’-6”) mounted in the center of an approx. 14’ diameter planting bed with seat wall. Scaled details of the porthole shall include front and back flanges, hinges and wing nut closure. Waves inside the lower half of the porthole’s opening shall be embossed copper sheet metal. Lantana Montevidensis ground cover will be installed inside the seat wall to the Portal footing.

“Nautilus” – 6’ tall (depth = approx. 5”) segment of a nautilus shell backed with copper embossed sheet metal waves. Details shall include profile of nautilus shell and segments depicting the interior chambers of the shell. (Overall structure will be approx. 7’)

Media for both sculptures shall consist of forged and fabricated mild steel with a painted finish and embossed copper sheets. Painted finishes shall mimic the tones of bronze and aluminum.

Theme / Development

The common theme of both sculptures is the waterfront. Embossed sheet metal waves featured in both sculptures tie the two works together and visually unite the artworks with the surrounding landscape and the gently rippling water of the estuary. The nautilus is an organic form (based on the golden ratio) striking a bold and contemporary silhouette; while the porthole recalls the history of the site as a working dock, servicing fleets of fishing boats and other vessels. “Portal” is a large-scale replica of the exact porthole, which would have been found on any of the classic vessels docked at the marina at the turn of the century.

Compatibility of artwork with City of Alameda Public Art Guidelines

1) The nautical theme of the porthole and nautilus are conceptually compatible with the site’s visual landscape of rippling water and boats.

2) The design of the artworks relates to the present day function of the site as a working marina and public waterfront by using nautical themes and the visual suggestion of rippling water. The artworks provide strong visual interest while not dominating the visual landscape of the marina. The clean lines and bold shapes of the artworks harmonize with the existing architecture and landscape’s simplicity and “non-fussy” character.

- 3) The nautical theme and waterfront location of both artworks also makes them compatible with the history of the site as a shipyard, which operated, in the late 1800's.
- 4) The artworks will be an integral part of the site on several levels. The Nautilus will be located at the southwestern edge of the site, easily visible from Grand Street and will welcome pedestrians as they access the public pathway from the west. The Porthole will be visible from a greater distance, drawing pedestrians further along the path. The porthole will also offer a striking visual from Hibbard Street. The proposed pathways leading to the porthole sculpture will allow easy pedestrian access. The proposed seat wall around the sculpture will provide a place for pedestrians to sit and enjoy the sculpture and the views of the waterfront, enhancing the visitors' experience. Landscaping around both sculptures will blend with existing plant materials and add to the park like setting.
- 5) The proposed sculptures will not interfere with existing pedestrian pathways, shoreline access or other existing natural or man-made features of the site. The natural beauty of the rippling water at the site is integrated into the theme of the artworks through the copper "waves" featured in both sculptures.
- 6) The scale of both sculptures is appropriate for the site, offering visibility from public streets, without overpowering the setting. The forms are bold and striking from a distance, easily recognizable without being overly simplistic. The content of the porthole and nautilus artworks relates to the natural waterfront setting, the history of the site as a shipyard and the present day use of the site as a marina. The materials are all appropriate for an outdoor, waterfront setting (see materials and maintenance section.) The main structure of the porthole will have a slightly rough texture to the finish, which will mimic the texture of cast bronze. The nautilus shell will be smooth to reflect the smoothness of a shell. The copper "waves" in both sculptures will be embossed sheet metal (see material sample), which will create interesting depth and shadow effects. The color palette of patinated bronze, copper and stainless will harmonize with the colors found in and around the site and also mimic the metals found on the boats docked at the marina. The green foliage and purple blooms of the lantana and lavender around the artworks will work well with the existing landscaping and will harmonize with the cool colors of the copper as it's patina deepens over time.
- 7) Steel is an appropriately durable and structurally sound material for large-scale outdoor sculptures. The proposed use of copper sheet is also appropriate for this outdoor application when proper care is taken to deter theft (Please see section on theft deterrence). All steel surfaces will be sandblasted, zinc coated and top coated with metal spray for maximum durability and minimal maintenance. (Please see finishes section and maintenance section for greater detail)

Finishes:

All steel surfaces will be sandblasted, coated with zinc and then top coated with composite metal spray. Copper sheet will be patinated and coated with wax (additional patina will develop on these surfaces over time.)

Visibility

Both artworks are easily visible from public streets (“Nautilus” visible from Grand Street and “Portal” visible from Fortman.) Both artworks are also highly visible and accessible to pedestrians from the shoreline pathway and from Grand Street.

Maintenance:

Both sculptures will require little to no maintenance for years. Metal spray finishes are guaranteed for up to ten years and have been known to last over twenty years without requiring maintenance.

Metal spray finishes can be touched up with a spray can if the artwork is vandalized or scratched.

The bronze metal spray surfaces and copper sheet will naturally patina over time. These can be buffed as they age or they may be allowed to patina naturally. The pewter surfaces will maintain their original color over time.

Theft Deterrence:

Both sculptures will be surface bolted to concrete foundations (specs TBD by structural engineer) and these bolts will be welded on site to stop potential thieves from loosening the bolts. The “wing nut closure” on the porthole will also be welded to the sculpture to prevent theft. Hinges on the porthole will be non-operational for safety and to prevent theft.

All copper sheets will be sandwiched between solid steel frames. The front frames will be welded to the sculpture, copper sheet will be set in place and back frames will be mechanically attached to the back face. All mechanical attachments will be welded in place (after the copper is set) to prevent removal of the fasteners.

Valuation

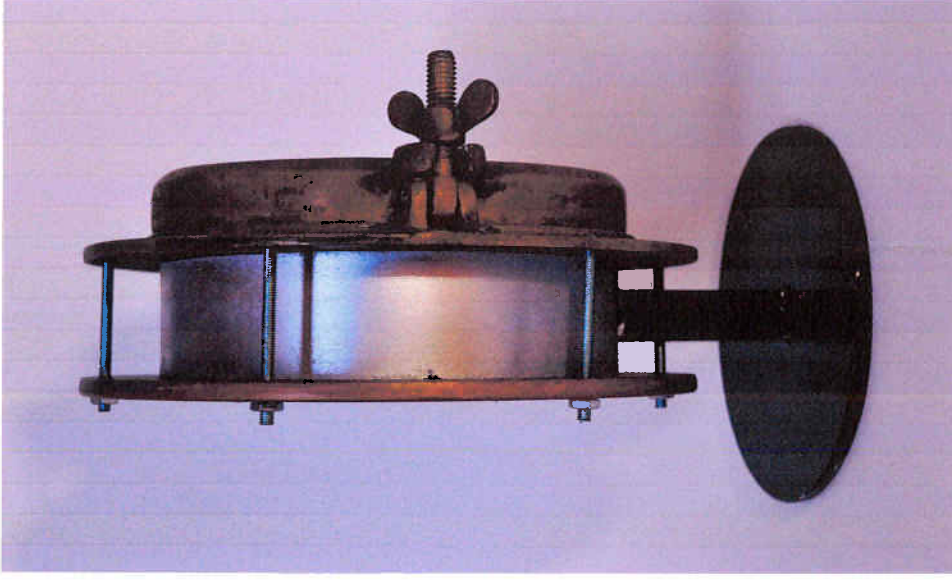
Nautilus	\$24,700
Porthole	\$115,300



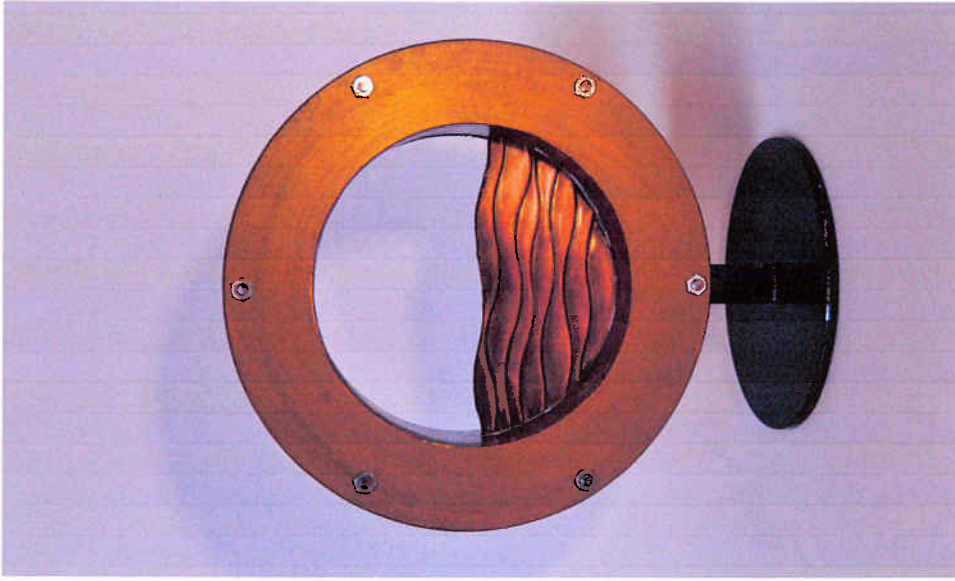
Site for Porthole



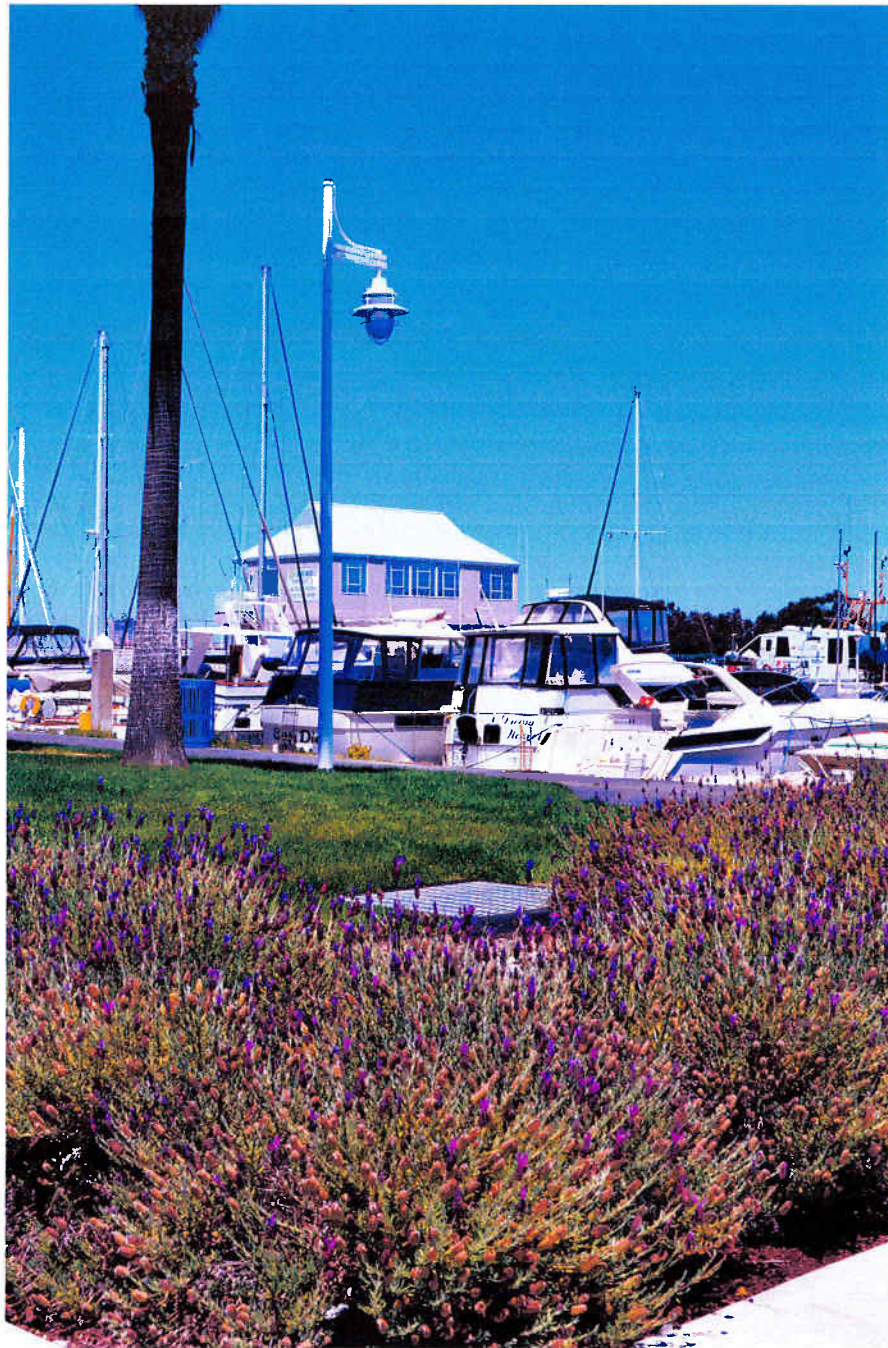
Porthole Front View



Side View



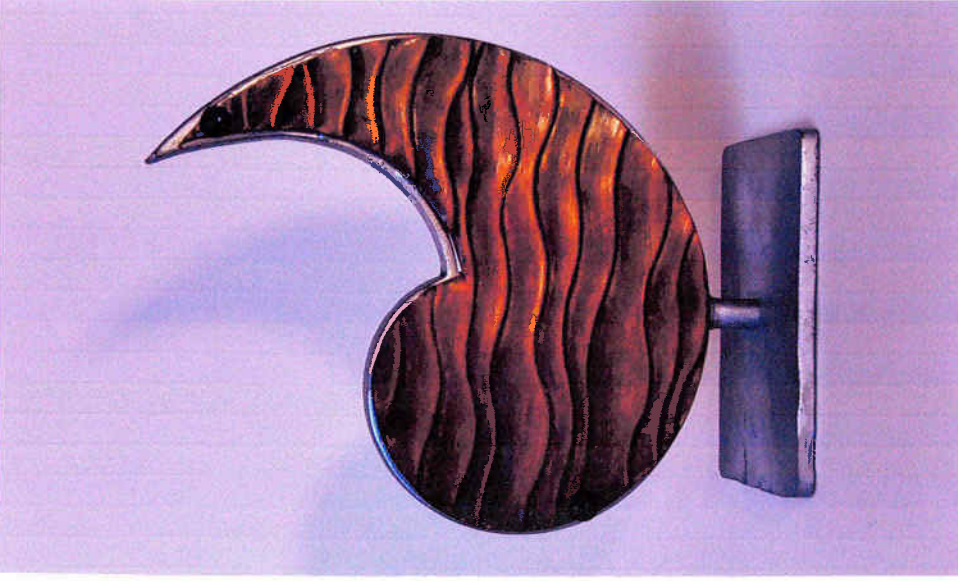
Back View



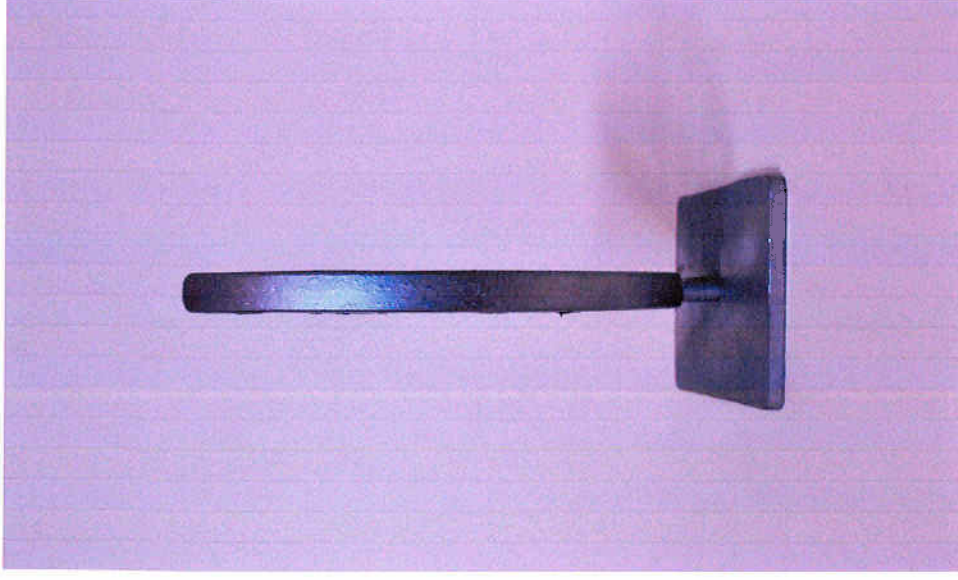
Site for Nautilus



Nautilus Front View



Back View



Side View